Proposal to set up Thermal Power Stations

†395. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States to whom the proposals to set up thermal power stations have been sent by Central Government, keeping in view the success of Neyveli Lignite Scheme, Chennai to provide cheaper power in the country;

(b) the names of the States from which letters of consent have been received after determining the places for thermal power stations alongwith the States from whom the same are yet to be received;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up such a scheme in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, by when along with the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The State Governments where Lignite reserves are available, are competent to set up thermal power stations based on Lignite. The Detailed Project Reports for the proposed power stations are to be prepared by the project authorities for obtaining Techno-Economic Clearance from the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

The Detailed Project Report for setting up 2×250 MW Birsingsar Lignite based Thermal Power Station by an Independent Power Producer in Rajasthan was received in CEA. TEC by CEA has been accorded on 20.4.1998. Financial closure of the project has not yet been achieved. No proposals have been received in CEA for setting up Lignite based power projects from Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Visit of Power Minister to Europe

†396. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Power had visited Europe in May; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of his visit to Europe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Minister of Power had visited France and Austria in May, 2001. The details are as under:—

1.	Visit to France (14-18th May, 2001)	To attend the Ministerial Meeting of the International Energy Agency (IEA).
2.	Visit to Austria (18-22nd May, 2001)	To discuss issues of mutual interest in the power sector with the Austrian Government and to seek Austrian expertise for the development of the hydro sector.

Laying of transmission lines between Trichi and Neyveli by L and T Ltd.

397. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) has awarded the contract of laying of transmission lines between Trichi and Neyveli to M/s Larsen and Toubro Limited (L and T Ltd.);

(b) if so, the details of contract viz. distance between Trichi and Neyveli, cost of project, total number of transmission towers constructed etc., so far by L and T Ltd.;

(c) whether the project has been delayed by the company; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Power Grid Corporation